

## STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

HALEY BARBOUR, GOVERNOR

## MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Trudy D. Fisher, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 20, 2011

Contact: Robbie Wilbur

601/961-5277

## MDEQ ISSUES BEACH ADVISORY FOR LOCATION IN JACKSON COUNTY

(JACKSON, Miss.) -- The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), through its Beach Monitoring Program, is working closely with local officials to advise residents that the following location may have high bacteria levels:

• Station 17 -- St. Andrews Beach -- near Main Street in Ocean Springs.

When water samples show that levels are safe for human contact, the advisory will be lifted. The Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, which performs water sampling of the Mississippi Gulf Coast beaches for MDEQ, will notify the agency when the area has returned to acceptable levels.

Additionally, swimmers are reminded that the Beach Task Force has a standing recommendation that swimming not occur during or within 24 hours of a significant rainfall event.

More information on the Mississippi Beach Monitoring Program: <a href="http://www.usm.edu/gcrl/msbeach/index.cgi">http://www.usm.edu/gcrl/msbeach/index.cgi</a>.

###